



Policy: 3080
Procedure: 3080.02
Chapter: Dental Health
Rule: Dental Priority of Care

Effective: 3/12/08
Replaces: 3200.08
Dated: 09/28/00

Purpose:

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) Medical Services Division shall provide oral treatment, not limited to extractions, based on a treatment plan that utilizes established priorities of care in accordance with National Commission and Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) Standard Y-E-06(5).

Rules:

1. Upon initial complete oral examination and within 60 days of admission of a new commitment, the **DENTIST** shall:
 - a. Evaluate each juvenile's dental health needs;
 - b. Assign a color coded classification status designed to identify and facilitate priority scheduling and care of juveniles;
 - c. Prioritize the prescribed oral care in a treatment plan using appropriate radiographs in accordance with American Dental Association Guidelines for Prescribing Radiographs; and
 - d. Use appropriate consultation through referral to off-site oral health care specialists.
2. The **DENTIST** shall re-evaluate and update a juvenile's priority classification and color tag status during each dental visit.
3. **DENTAL PERSONNEL** shall define the priority levels as follows:
 - a. Highest Priority: Emergency Care: **DENTAL PERSONNEL** shall see a juvenile immediately and refer him/her to an outside consultant if needed. The following circumstances qualify:
 - i. Fracture of the maxilla, mandible or zygomatic arch;
 - ii. Intraoral lacerations including the vermilion border of the lips;
 - iii. Post operative uncontrolled bleeding;
 - iv. Avulsed tooth/displaced tooth;
 - v. Facial swelling that is life threatening;
 - vi. Extreme pain non-responsive to implementation of standing orders/protocols (See Dental Emergency Protocol;)
 - vii. Malignant hyperthermia secondary to anesthesia.
 - b. Priority I: RED: **DENTAL PERSONNEL** shall see the juvenile as soon as possible. The following circumstances qualify:
 - i. Oral pathological conditions that compromise the general health of the juvenile;
 - ii. Acute dental abscess;
 - iii. Non-restorable teeth;
 - iv. Fractured tooth (Ellis class III or IV);
 - v. Caries that threaten the pulp;
 - vi. Acute periodontal conditions such as:
 - (1) Perio type IV or V;
 - (2) Periodontal abscess;
 - (3) Acute necrotizing ulcerative gingivitis (ANUG);
 - c. Priority II: YELLOW: **DENTAL PERSONNEL** shall see the juvenile at the earliest convenience:
 - i. Oral pathological conditions that do not compromise the juvenile's general health;
 - ii. Caries that do not threaten the pulp;
 - iii. Fractured tooth (Ellis class II);

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- iv. Chronic periodontal conditions:
 - (1) Perio Type III;
 - (2) Perio Type II;
 - (3) Perio Type I (moderate to severe).
- v. Dental prosthesis; anterior acrylic partial dentures.
- d. Priority III: GREEN: **DENTAL PERSONNEL** shall see the juvenile annually for follow-up including:
 - i. Incipient caries;
 - ii. Fractured tooth (Ellis class I);
 - iii. Periodontal Type I (mild, gingivitis only);
 - iv. No periodontal condition or gingivitis;
 - v. Stains/discolorations/cosmetics/esthetics;
 - vi. Elective scaling and root polishing as indicated by juvenile's oral hygiene.
- 4. **DENTAL PERSONNEL** shall utilize other Color Coded Categories which include:
 - a. BLUE: Juvenile refuses to submit to medical program;
 - b. WHITE: Juvenile has braces or a dental prosthesis; referral as necessary.
- 5. Exempt dental procedures: **ADJC DENTAL PERSONNEL** shall not offer the following dental procedures under agency dental/medical services except as funded by the juvenile's legal guardian:
 - a. Fixed prosthodontics/cast crowns;
 - b. Implants;
 - c. Orthodontic treatment;
 - d. Endodontics (posterior teeth);
 - e. Oral surgery for impacted wisdom teeth.

Signature Date

2-21-08

Approved by Process Owner

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Effective Date

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